

what one may perhaps speak of as the elegance of diction lend an added charm to both books, of which certain chapters should be resorted to for pleasure in a leisure hour.

Mr. Lockwood's book consists of certain clinical lectures and addresses delivered from time to time and published elsewhere. Several of the more interesting are: Clinical reasoning; the recognition and management of intestinal obstruction; the essentials of a diagnosis; carcinoma of the breast and its spread into the lymphatics; exploratory laparotomy, especially in cases of malignant disease; clinical pathology in relation to diagnosis and treatment; and salivary calculi.

Mr. Edmunds' book comprises an interesting discussion of a much neglected subject, which is considered from a practical and a surgical standpoint; its limitations have been defined by considering only those pathological conditions in which affections of the lymphatic vessels or glands constitute the essential feature of the disease, such as cellulitis, acute infections, retropharyngeal abscess, glandular fever, chronic infections (especially tuberculosis) and their surgical treatment, diseases of the thymus gland, the surgery of the thoracic duct, lymphatic insufficiency, filariasis, dilatations of the lymphatic vessels, lymphadenoma or Hodgkin's disease, lymphangio-endothelioma, lymphosarcoma, the operative treatment of secondary malignant glands, and the treatment of inoperable malignant glands. The discussions are altogether commendable; the advice in regard to treatment is especially sound and practical. The book is a real addition to medical literature.

The volume of writings of Sir William Broadbent consists of a judicious selection from among the many papers of a distinguished author. Some of these have been selected because of their historic interest, such as that on the bilateral association of nerve nuclei (so-called Broadbent hypothesis), others to illustrate the variety of the author's work in his early days of professional life, and others because they are of present-day interest. Among the last named one may mention the examination of the heart (the author's last completed paper), adherent pericardium, pneumonia, interlobar empyema, acute dilatation of the stomach, some affections of speech, and syphilitic affections of the nervous system.

Bardswell and Chapman's *Diets in Tuberculosis* comprises the results of many years' study and investigation of diet and dietetics in general, but especially in regard to tuberculosis and the nourishing of the poor. They discuss the comparative economy of various foodstuffs, the economics of diets, and certain observations on the treatment of tuberculous patients with meat-free diet. They give the diet lists of several sanatoriums, certain practical directions for out-patients in regard to buying and cooking diets, and a dietary, costing sixteen cents a day in England, that has been found adequate for the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis. The book is an

interesting and valuable addition to the already voluminous literature on tuberculosis.

The general scope of the other books, those by Drs. Sutherland, Adamson, Atkinson, Brockbank, and Wrench, is well exemplified in their respective titles. The discussions are in keeping with the excellence of the volumes of the series already issued. A. K.

HYDROTHERAPY. By SIMON BARUCH, M.D., Professor of Hydrotherapy in Columbia University (College of Physicians and Surgeons), New York; Medical Director of the Hydriatric Department of the Riverside Association. Third edition; pp. 544; 74 illustrations. New York: William Wood & Company, 1908.

In the third edition of his excellent text-book Dr. Baruch takes a very broad view of his subject, including even the antiseptic effects of hot water in surgery.

The first section is devoted to the physiological action of water. The various experiments cited are more interesting than decisive, as may be learned from Dr. Baruch's conclusion, "that, despite some differences of opinion and deductions, the changes produced by the thermic and mechanical stimulation arising from hydriatric procedures are very intense and far-reaching. The inference is as clear as day that an enormous influence must be exercised by procedures which impress such changes upon the caliber of the vessels, the action of the heart, and the composition of the blood in health; and that its effect in disease must be equally pronounced." The "musts" in this sentence are sufficient proof that the exact nature and influence of the changes are not yet sufficiently understood. Dr. Baruch has, we believe, at last impressed upon the profession, by his untiring persistence, the doctrine "that the antithermic uses of water are of far less value than its other qualities in febrile conditions," and that its real service is the stimulating influence upon the central nervous system, which is brought about by the reaction and manifested by the clearing up of those symptoms which we usually ascribe to febrile intoxication, but he also illustrates how firmly the antipyretic idea is impressed upon the medical mind by referring to "the good results in reduction of temperature" produced by ablution, the very first method described, and referring again to it in almost every other method.

In proof of his contention of the slightness of the antithermic result, he brings in evidence the slight reduction of the rectal temperature, which he regards as incomparably more accurate than the mouth or axillary temperature. This is a point upon which con-

siderably more investigation is required. His advocacy of the Brand method is undiminished in fervor, and the evidence he brings forward in favor of the reduction of mortality that follows its routine use is very convincing. As he justly remarks, the small experience of the average practitioner is practically worthless in comparison with the magnificent statistics obtained in various hospitals throughout the world. Even, perhaps, the inexact use of cold bathing in typhoid fever has produced a considerable decrease in the hospital mortality in this country, and for this also Baruch more than any other man is responsible, for he has taught the practitioners that cold bathing is good in typhoid fever, and they practise it without any very definite idea of the method. Dr. Baruch inveighs against the prejudice of the medical profession. We think it fairer to say the ignorance of the medical profession. By his own showing, there is only one medical college in the United States in which hydrotherapy is given adequate recognition. It cannot be supposed that the practising physician will look with favor upon a method of which he understands little or nothing; that is abused by quacks and charlatans, largely because of ignorance; and that requires either considerable personal effort on the part of the physician in educating members of the family, or the services of a trained nurse, who, perhaps, may need as much instruction. Much stress is laid upon the importance of accurate technique. In this we agree very heartily with Dr. Baruch. The indefinite directions given by the average practitioner are more calculated to do harm than good. The chapter on the hydriatic prescription deserves very careful and repeated reading.

In the special part the enthusiast is revealed. We are all, nowadays, ready to admit the paramount value of hydrotherapy in typhoid fever, but either the medical profession is difficult to convince or there is some error in the results obtained in cerebrospinal meningitis, pneumonia, Asiatic cholera, and in a variety of other diseases, even including chronic malaria. A reduction of 66 per cent. in the mortality of pneumonia, brought about almost exclusively by bathing, if correct, would make it imperative upon every practitioner to use this method. In functional nervous diseases and malnutrition its virtues are lauded.

The book concludes with a rather brief historical chapter. It can be commended as admirable in itself and almost the only adequate text-book on the subject in the English language.

J. S.

OPERATIVE MIDWIFERY. By J. M. MUNRO KERR, M.B., C.M. (Glasgow), Obstetric Physician to the Glasgow Maternity Hospital. Pp. 691; 294 illustrations. New York: William Wood & Co., 1908.

As stated by the author in his preface, it is many years since a book has been published in the English language dealing with operative obstetrics alone. In the period between the publication of Barnes' last edition in 1886 and the present, the whole obstetric viewpoint has been changed and the horizon enlarged, so that this department of medicine is now justly regarded as a surgical specialty. This may be looked upon as the author's apology for the publication of the volume, but after a most careful reading of the book we feel that none is needed.

The first twenty chapters, comprising 300 pages, are concerned with a consideration of dystocia, the remainder of the volume being given to a consideration of the operative technique. The first chapter of this latter portion gives a detailed account of the preparation of the patient, operating room, instruments, etc., while the next eight chapters treat of the various obstetric operations, such as the use of forceps, version, Cesarean section, and craniotomy. Then follow chapters on the manual removal of the placenta, abortion, placenta prævia, ectopic pregnancy, postpartum hemorrhage, and premature separation of the placenta. The last three chapters of the book are taken up with a study of the accidents to the mother and child. In an appendix of three pages an account is given of the method of determining the pelvic measurements by the Röntgen rays, which has been contributed by J. R. Riddell.

There are singularly few matters, either conclusions of the author or his method of presentation, with which the profession of America will not be in hearty accord. However, we cannot follow him in his suggestion as to the use of cocaine in certain types of cervical rigidity, nor in his advocacy of surgical anesthesia in primiparæ at the time of delivery of the head; in the former instance, because of the danger of infection and because there are better modern methods of meeting the indication; and in the latter, because of the danger of relaxation of the uterus, with resulting hemorrhage (the author calls attention in another portion of the work to the dangers resulting from a prolonged use of small amounts of anesthetic agents during the second stage). We also question whether American ophthalmologists will agree with his favorable prognosis in albuminuric retinitis, and we consider his method of closing the uterine wound after Cesarean section to be distinctly inferior. One of the most striking variations from the generally accepted teaching in this country is his statement that he does not consider the induction of labor of decided value in cases in which the true conjugate measures 8.7 cm. and above; he would limit its